

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 are amended for form. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments place the application in condition for allowance and do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the Final Rejection and are responsive to suggestions discussed during the personal interview. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claim 12 is allowed. However, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed below.

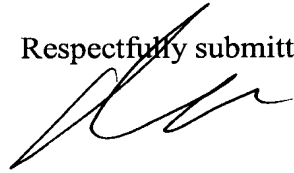
The Office Action rejects claims 1-11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend independent claims 1 and 2 responsive to the rejection. Thus, claims 1 and 2, and claims 3-11, 13 and 14 depending from claim 1, satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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